

MEPAL PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

This our second Annual Report sets out what we, your Councillors, have done during the last year to try to make and keep Mepal the place you are pleased to live. It also sets out in brief our plans for the coming year. Please let us know your concerns, views and wishes, and contact us if there is anything with which you think you might help. Our agendas (posted on the website and on the parish council noticeboard in the High Street) advertise all our business, and our decisions are made at our public Parish Council meetings, at which anyone from the parish is welcome to speak. For contact information, please see the back page of this Report. Parish Council Meetings are held each month (except August and December), on the second Monday evening, in the Village Hall.

After five years as Chairman, I am standing down at the end of this year – though I shall continue active as a Parish Councillor. My thanks for support go to my fellow councillors, our Clerk, and to all of you who do things for the parish. I wish our new Chairman every success.

Elizabeth Stazicker
Chairman – Mepal Parish Council

Parish Guide, Newsletter and Website

Our newsletter, *Mepal People*, is published every second month and delivered in the village. If you don't receive a copy, please ask the Clerk.

Our website www.mepalparish.org.uk contains lots of useful village information including agenda and minutes of Parish Council meetings.

A *Mepal Guide* is published to provide basic information about the village. Collect a copy from Mepal Stores if you are new to the village.

If you want to contribute to *Mepal People* and/or the website, or need other information, please contact the Clerk.

Achievements in 2008/9

- Communications – our new website has attracted 2,500 visitors in its first year! Thanks to our new Editorial Team, *Mepal People* has a new look.
- Delivery of Parish Plan Actions – see enclosed flyer.
- Allotments – land search and negotiation. Allocation of land and facilitating the successful formation of the Mepal Allotment & Leisure Garden Association.



Members of Mepal Allotment & Leisure Garden Association undertaking clearance work to the land allocated for allotments on Mepal recreation field.

- Neighbourhood Panel - strong support of this new local forum to get partner authority action: speeding, Laurel Close parking, disorder, flooding.
- Speedwatch scheme – to assist in the reduction of speeding in the village. Mike Stacey has completed the training and a group of 16 volunteers has now been identified.
- Youth Work – negotiating a new basis for Youth Work.
- Training – congratulations to our Clerk on achieving the Certificate in Local Council Administration, and to all of our Councillors on completing their training.
- Village Hall – ongoing support. Congratulations to the Mepal Village Hall Management Committee on their improvement scheme.
- Village Shop – continuing support. Congratulations to Phil & Elaine on retaining our Post Office.



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2009

Year Ended 31 st March 2008	INCOME	Year Ended 31 st March 2009
22900.00	Precept*	24555.00
1687.12	Agency Services	1742.19
0.00	Loans for Capital Expenditure	0.00
577.02	Interest on Investments & Accounts	416.97
0.00	Sale of Assets	0.00
300.00	Tenancies (Council as landlord)	300.00
0.00	Capital Grants	0.00
1500.00	Other Grants	0.00
605.47	Revenue Reimbursement	2309.41
578.01	Newsletter	535.00
1036.00	Recycling Credits	1302.00
140899.67	Pavilion Project	0.00
3297.40	VAT	1345.68
840.63	Other	128.00
<hr/> 174221.32 <hr/>	Total Income	<hr/> 32634.25 <hr/>
	EXPENDITURE	
3003.15	Administration	2696.05
7103.12	Wages, PAYE, NI, Pensions, Expenses	6263.79
1926.72	S137 Payments	175.00
0.00	Capital Spending (asset purchase)	224.81
1215.35	Agency Services	1494.20
0.00	Grants	1946.76
0.00	Other Payments	0.00
0.00	Provision for doubtful debts	0.00
0.00	Loan Interest & Repayments	0.00
24.00	Advertising & Publicity	53.12
0.00	Tenancies (Council as tenant)	0.00
605.01	Newsletter	634.38
234.24	Public Lighting	249.33
7627.03	Parish Maintenance	9298.04
158085.60	Pavilion Project	0.00
1033.83	Insurance	1452.59
692.25	Parish Plan	1091.75
3297.40	VAT	1345.68
<hr/> 184847.70 <hr/>	Total Expenditure	<hr/> 26925.50 <hr/>
29536.37	< Balance at 31st March 2007	18909.99
174221.32	Add total income	32634.25
0.00	Add VAT to be reclaimed	0.00
203757.69		51544.24
-184847.70	Deduct total expenditure	-26925.50
<hr/> 18909.99 <hr/>	Balance as at 31st March 2009 >	<hr/> 24618.74 <hr/>

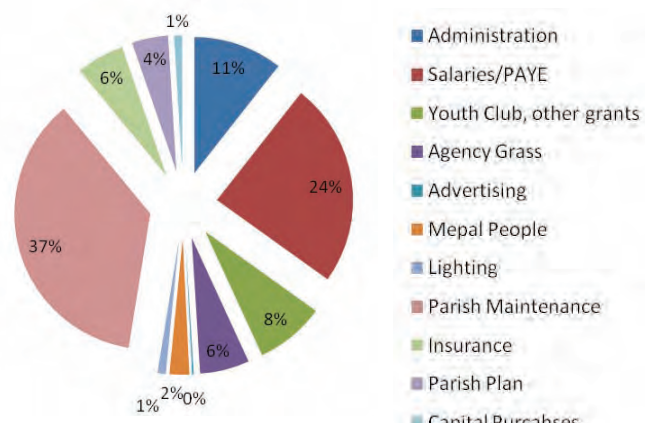
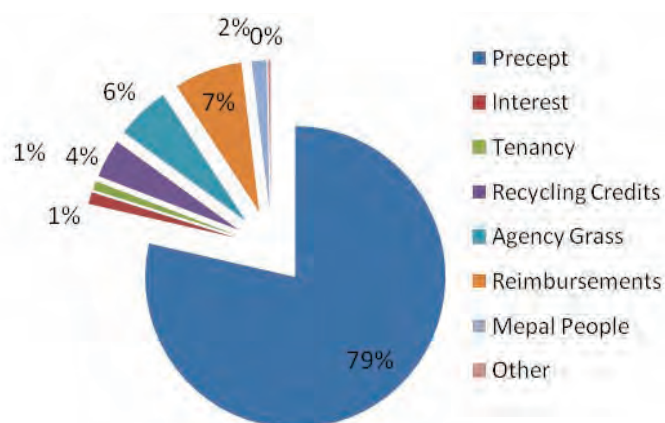
*The precept equated to £65.61 per annum at Band D in 2007/8, £67.11 in 2008/9 and £70.47 in 2009/10. Budget estimates for 2009/10 are available from the Clerk.

Receipts 2008/9

Payments 2008/9

Income £31.3k

Expenditure £25.5k



Current Projects

- Continuing to work towards Quality Parish Council Status and the Power of Wellbeing to help us serve you better.
- Seeking funding to improve children's play facilities in the village.
- Working with our new Youth & Community Development providers to improve opportunities in the village.
- Promoting Healthy Living & Environmental Sustainability through work with our neighbours – encouraging use of our footpaths, trying to get a cycle track to Witchford & Ely.
- Continuing work to fulfil the Parish Plan Actions and to support the Village Hall, the shop & post office and the pavilion.

Work and Role of Mepal Parish Council

- Our major role is to represent the parish on issues affecting us to the District and County Councils, and to regional and central government, and other agencies. Within the parish, we carry out the following regular work:
- Maintain open spaces:
 - ✦ The Recreation Field and children's play area
 - ✦ The Village Green
 - ✦ Laurel Close greens
 - ✦ River Close green (on behalf of the District Council)
 - ✦ Highway verges (on behalf of the County Council)
- Consider and comment to the Local Planning Authority on all planning applications (statutory consultee) and respond to government, regional, council and other consultations on planning and other matters.
- Maintain the Recycling Site for the District Council and request clearance of reported fly tipping.
- Provide and maintain parish noticeboards, litter bins, dog waste bins, seats and some street lighting.
- Support the Community Pavilion, run on our behalf by Mepal Sports Action Group, and the Village Hall, run by independent trustees.
- Support charitable groups and organisations which work within the village.
- Work with Sutton Parish Council to provide a Youth Club and other Community services.
- Through the Parish Paths Partnership, assist the County Council with Rights of Way.
- Ensure that village problems are brought to the attention of the relevant authorities via the Neighbourhood Panel.
- Nominate representatives on the following bodies: East Cambridgeshire West Neighbourhood Panel, Mepal Outdoor Centre Committee, Elean Power Station Community Liaison Committee, Cambridgeshire Heavy Commercial Vehicles Group, East Cambridgeshire Play Partnership and Cambridgeshire County Council Parish Paths Partnership Scheme.

In a fast-changing world, the Parish Council's role is to work to make and keep Mepal the place you want it to be.

Help Keep Mepal a Pleasant Place to Live

We are grateful to the many people, not only the Parish Council, who work hard to keep Mepal clean and tidy. Unfortunately, there are several problems caused by the inconsiderate few.

PLEASE:

- Clear up after your dogs and dispose of the waste in the bins provided.
- Slow down and keep an eye on your speed through the village. School children like to walk/bike to school but they are made to feel unsafe by the speed of vehicles travelling past them.
- Use the Recycling Site sensibly - post your recyclables into the banks provided and don't leave general household rubbish beside the banks. Banks are available for tetrapaks (i.e. orange juice etc cartons, NOT cardboard), glass, cans, plastics (bottles ONLY) and newspapers.
- Don't park inconsiderately.

Parish Council Contacts

Clerk: Sally Shipley

Mepal Parish Council, 50 Chestnut Way, Mepal, Ely CB6 2YR

Tel: (01353) 774994

Email: mepalparishcouncil@msn.com

Mepal Parish Council has 7 councillors who are elected for a 4 year term. The next elections will be in May 2011. A Chairman is elected annually by the Council. Mrs Stazicker has notified her intention to resign at the May 2009 meeting. She will continue to serve as a Parish Councillor.

Elizabeth Stazicker (Chairman) elizabeth.stazicker@mepalparish.org.uk	The Willows, Low Bank, Mepal	01353 778129
Mike Stacey (Vice-Chairman) mike.stacey@mepalparish.org.uk	58 Meadow Way, Mepal	07777 688890
Ron Slough ron.slough@mepalparish.org.uk	18 Brangehill Lane, Mepal	01353 778893
Glenn Drew glenn.drew@mepalparish.org.uk	6a New Road, Mepal	01353 775176
Mark Newstead mark.newstead@mepalparish.org.uk	6 Rectory Fields, Mepal	01353 777573
Allen Sallis allen.sallis@mepalparish.org.uk	60 Meadow Way, Mepal	01353 775302

Please feel free to contact any of your Councillors if you have a concern that you would like to discuss. We would politely request that you respect Councillor's family times and be aware that responses to emails may not be immediate. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, or joining one of our Working Parties, please contact the Clerk.

Other contacts:

District Councillor: Anna Bailey	40 Cambridge Road, Ely CB7 4HL	01353 663253
District Councillor: Tony Goodge	7 John Amner Close, Ely CB6 1DT	01353 664491
County Councillor: Philip Read	"Mostyn", 76 High Street, Sutton CB6 2NL	01353 778603

County Council elections are to be held on 4th June 2009